

DAVID C. COLLINS
COMMANDING OFFICER
NAVAL HOSPITAL JACKSONVILLE
CAPTAIN, MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS, U.S. NAVY



Capt. David C. Collins, a native of Avoca, Michigan, graduated from Yale High School and enlisted in the Navy in 1983. After completing Hospital Corps School and Basic X-Ray Technician "C" School, his first duty station was USS Okinawa (LPH 3), where he completed three deployments to the Western Pacific. Subsequently, he was assigned to U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa, Japan, where he attained the rank of hospital corpsman first class.

While at Naval Medical Center (NMC) Portsmouth, Virginia, Collins was commissioned as a Medical Service Corps officer in June 1991. His first assignment as an officer was Naval Hospital Corps School, Great Lakes, Illinois, as Resource Management department head. He was ordered to USS George Washington (CVN 73) as medical administration officer, and completed a deployment to the Arabian Gulf, earning his Surface Warfare Medical Department Officer qualification. After this, he was assigned to NMC Portsmouth as head of Personnel Management Department and as Plans, Operations & Medical Intelligence officer. Joining the staff of the Bureau of Naval Personnel in April 2000, he served as a placement officer. In December 2001, he was assigned as executive assistant to the chief of the Navy Medical Corps.

He then deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF), and Joint Task Force Southwest Asia's Operation Southern Watch with Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central Command/U.S. 5th Fleet in Bahrain, providing mortuary affairs support during extended combat operations. He was then selected to be flag aide to the commander, NMC Portsmouth. In July 2004, he deployed to Expeditionary Medical Facility Kuwait as director for administration in support of OIF/OEF. Upon returning, he was assigned as associate director for administration at NMC Portsmouth.

Collins became officer in charge, Branch Medical Clinic Norfolk, Branch Health Clinic Yorktown, and Branch Health Clinic Norfolk Naval Shipyard in 2007. In August 2010, he reported to Navy Medicine East as deputy chief of staff, Installations and Logistics; then later returned to NMC Portsmouth as director for administration. Concurrently, he was selected by the Navy surgeon general as general health care administration specialty leader, a position he held until February 2015, providing guidance to 625 health care professionals. He deployed as executive officer, NATO Role 3 Multinational Medical Unit, Kandahar, Afghanistan from August 2013 to May 2014, supporting NATO troops engaged in combat operations as part of the Global War on Terror. He then reported as executive officer, Naval Hospital Bremerton.

In May 2016, he was selected as commanding officer of Naval Hospital Jacksonville — a command comprised of the Navy's third largest hospital and five branch health clinics in Florida and Georgia.

Collins has earned the Surface Warfare Medical Department Officer qualification, Meritorious Service Medal (six awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (eight awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (three awards), and Good Conduct Medal (two awards).

